

REMARKS

In the Official Action mailed on **09 January 2008**, the Examiner reviewed claims 1, 3-9, 11-17, and 19-24. Examiner rejected claims 1, 3-9, 11-17, and 19-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on Traversat et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0184357, hereinafter “Traversat”).

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1, 3-9, 11-17, and 19-24 were rejected as being anticipated by Traversat. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Traversat nowhere discloses maintaining service information by deleting stale service information wherein the deletion/invalidation of the stale service information **involves subsequently validating child service information** for the deleted/invalidated service information.

Traversat discloses using a TTL parameter in a service advertisement to determine how long a cached service advertisement is valid (see Traversat, paragraphs [0403]-[0404] and [0420]). Traversat is explicitly limited to deleting or invalidating a service advertisement when the TTL of the advertisement expires (see Traversat, paragraph [0317]). In the sections of Traversat cited by Examiner in support of the rejection of original claim 4 (see Office Action, page 4), Traversat discloses:

- (1) using service advertisements to access network services (see Traversat, par. [0295]);
- (2) handling discovery messages, wherein rendezvous nodes either supply a service advertisement in response to the discovery message or forward the discovery message to other rendezvous nodes (see Traversat, par. [0300]-[0303]); and

(3) publishing service advertisements at a client, wherein the service advertisements are held in a rendezvous node for a predetermined amount of time (i.e., a “TTL”) before being deleted and the service advertisements are used by the rendezvous node to respond to discovery messages (see Traversat, par. [0315]-[0319]).

Nothing in the cited sections, or anywhere else in Traverset, discloses sending one or more queries based on a resource record and invalidating the resource record **if a response is not received to the query in a predetermined time**. Furthermore, nothing in the cited sections, or anywhere else in Traverset, discloses subsequently **validating child resource records** of invalidated resource records.

In contrast, embodiments of the present invention retrieve a resource record from a local cache and send one or more queries for the resource based on the resource record. Upon not receiving a response to the queries within a predetermined amount of time, embodiments of the present invention invalidate the resource record (see instant application, par. [0031]). These embodiments subsequently validate child resource records of the resource record (see instant application, par. [0031]). This is beneficial because it speeds up the deletion of stale information within the local cache, ensuring that the local cache maintains valid resource records.

Accordingly, Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 9, and 17 to clarify that embodiments of the present invention validate any child records of an invalidated resource record. These amendments find support in par. [0031] of the instant application. Applicant has also amended claims 4, 12, and 20 to clarify the process for validating a child resource record. These amendments find support in par. [0031] of the instant application. No new matter has been added.

Hence, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 9, and 17 as presently amended are in condition for allowance. Applicant also submits that the dependent claims which depend upon the independent claims are for the same

reasons in condition for allowance and for reasons of the unique combinations recited in such claims.

CONCLUSION

It is submitted that the application is presently in form for allowance.
Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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